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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

Reverend Patrick Riffle, St. Peter's Catholic Church, Washington, DC, offered the following prayer:

O God, Who arranges all things according to a wonderful design, graciously receive the prayers we pour out to You for our country, that through the wisdom of its leaders and the integrity of its citizens, harmony and justice may be assured.

As we pause in these coming days of celebration and rest to be with our families and friends, prepare our hearts to welcome a new year that is filled with Your guidance and grace.

Heavenly Father, in this joyful season be most especially with our military and all who serve our country, especially those separated from family and friends, and may they and their loved ones know the gratitude and esteem we have for them and for their service.

We ask this all in Your most holy name.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to section 3(a) of House Resolution 493, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Missouri (Mrs. EMERSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. EMERSON led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

TEMPORARY PAYROLL TAX CUT CONTINUATION ACT OF 2011

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committees on Ways and Means, Energy and Commerce, Transportation and Infrastructure, Natural Resources, Foreign Affairs, Financial Services, and the Budget be discharged from further consideration of the bill (H.R. 3765) to extend the payroll tax holiday, unemployment compensation, Medicare physician payment, provide for the consideration of the Keystone XL pipeline, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House. The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Missouri?

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, and I will not object, I know that the American people are pleased that we have come together to agree on this extension to give certainty and peace of mind to the 160 million Americans who are concerned about losing their tax cut, the 48 million seniors who were concerned about their Medicare, and the 2.3 million people who are unemployed and seeking work who were fearful of losing their benefits.

I thank the Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Missouri, and I withdraw my reservation.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Missouri?

There was no objection.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3765

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the "Temporary Payroll Tax Cut Continuation Act of 2011".

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—TEMPORARY PAYROLL TAX RELIEF

Sec. 101. Extension of payroll tax holiday.

TITLE II—TEMPORARY EXTENSION OF UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION PROVISIONS

Sec. 201. Temporary extension of unemployment compensation provisions.

Sec. 202. Extended unemployment benefits under the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act.

TITLE III—TEMPORARY EXTENSION OF HEALTH PROVISIONS

Sec. 301. Medicare physician payment update.

Sec. 302. 2-month extension of MMA section 508 reclassifications.

Sec. 303. Extension of Medicare work geographic adjustment floor.

Sec. 304. Extension of exceptions process for Medicare therapy caps.

Sec. 305. Extension of payment for technical component of certain physician pathology services.

Sec. 306. Extension of ambulance add-ons.

Sec. 307. Extension of physician fee schedule mental health add-on payment.

Sec. 308. Extension of outpatient hold harmless provision.

Sec. 309. Extending minimum payment for bone mass measurement.

Sec. 310. Extension of the qualifying individual (QI) program.

Sec. 311. Extension of Transitional Medical Assistance (TMA).

Sec. 312. Extension of the temporary assistance for needy families program.

TITLE IV—MORTGAGE FEES AND PREMIUMS

Sec. 401. Guarantee Fees.

Sec. 402. FHA guarantee fees.

TITLE V—OTHER PROVISIONS

Subtitle A—Keystone XL Pipeline

Sec. 501. Permit for Keystone XL pipeline.

Subtitle B—Budgetary Provisions

Sec. 511. Senate point of order against an emergency designation.

Sec. 512. PAYGO scorecard estimates.

TITLE I—TEMPORARY PAYROLL TAX RELIEF

SEC. 101. EXTENSION OF PAYROLL TAX HOLIDAY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (c) of section 601 of the Tax Relief, Unemployment Insurance Reauthorization, and Job Creation Act

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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